THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir. Government has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme called Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAAY) on 2nd December, 2001 for construction/up-gradation of shelters and toilets seats for the urban slum dwellers living below poverty line (BPL).

(b) During the current Financial year, 2004-2005, Central subsidy of Rs. 343.00 lakh has been tentatively allocated to Chhattisgarh.

Implementation of Poverty Alleviation Programmes

1898. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the fund utilization on implementation of existing and newly launched programmes targeted at reducing the poverty levels across the country since the beginning of Tenth Five Year Plan in 2002;

(b) the impact of these programmes on poverty alleviation;

(c) whether Government have made any changes in the targets fixed for poverty alleviation for the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) With a view to ameliorate the conditions of the urban poor, and reducing the urban poverty in the country, Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation is implementing a Centrally Sponsored urban poverty alleviation programme namely Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) on All India basis *w.e.f.* 1.12.1997. The Scheme is continued in the Tenth five Year Plan also. During the Tenth Plan period, the year-wise expenditure for the first two years of the Plan, under SJSRY is as follows:—

Year	2002-03	2003-04
Fund utilized under SJSRY (Rs. in crore)	100.92	100.74

(b) Since inception of the SJSRY, as on 31.10.2004, the physical progress made is as follows:—

No. of beneficiaries assisted to set up micro-enterprises.	No. of women beneficiaries under DWCUA sub-component	No. of persons provided skill training	No. of mandays of work generated (in Lakhs)
5,50,647	1,06,309	6,61,464	519.80

(c) and (d) As reported by the Planning Commission there is no change in the monitorable target for reduction of poverty for the Tenth Plan period, that is, reduction of poverty ratio by 5 percentage points by 2007 and by 15 percentage points by 2012.

Open Advertisements by Housing Authorities/State Bodies

1899. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several Housing Authorities/Bodies of the States are selling plots/flats/houses, etc. through open advertisements;

(b) whether it is also a fact that such advertisements generally receive an overwhelming response;

(c) whether Government are aware that off-late, some of the authorities/ bodies have been withholding public money without incurring any interest liability for long periods by under delaying the draw after receipt of the applications; and

(d) whether Government propose to issue some guidelines for such bodies in order to check the menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) Housing Authorities/Bodies of the States function under the direct control of the State Governments and are governed by the rules/regulations/ instructions of the respective agency/State Government. As 'Housing' is a State subject, this Ministry does not monitor the activities of such housing authorities/bodies. There is no proposal to issue any guidelines to the State Governments in this regard.